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this topic, he touches upon the great leading discoveries in Astronomy, Natural Philosophy, and the Pure Mathematics, forming an assemblage of the triumphs of human intellect, which no past age can rival or approach in splendor. The third characteristic, is the system of foreign Colonization pursued by the maritime nations, especially Great Britain. The consequences of this system are delineated with sagacity and power. The fourth characteristic is the impulse given to the great cause of civil and religious freedom in this age. The fifth and last characteristic that is illustrated, is the increased attention devoted to the spiritual wants of mankind. These are the topics which Dr. Adams selected for the consideration of the young men he was about to send forth from his charge, to take their part in the duties and responsibilities of life. The spirit in which this address is written, cannot be too much commended. The author of it takes a wide and philosophic view of the blessings by which this age is pre-eminently distinguished; and the tone of feeling, which animates him, is religious and liberal. The style is easy, flowing, and in some passages eloquent. It is a discourse calculated in every respect to leave upon the mind of its hearers very favorable and useful impressions.

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13. — *Literary Remains of the late WILLIAM HAZLITT*, with  
*a Notice of his Life*, by his Son, and *Thoughts on his  
Genius and Writings*, by E. L. BULWER, Esq. M. P.  
and Mr. SERGEANT TALFOURD, M. P. New York.  
Saunders and Otley. 1836. 8vo.

WILLIAM HAZLITT is an author who has acquired notoriety, but not fame. His various contributions to the miscellaneous literature of the age, have been widely read, and by some vehemently applauded. They have been thought worthy to be collected into a volume, and printed, accompanied by a biographical sketch by his son, "Some Thoughts on the Genius (?) of William Hazlitt," by Mr. Bulwer, further thoughts by Mr. Sergeant Talfourd, a letter by Charles Lamb, and six sonnets to Hazlitt's memory, by a lady. This formidable introduction ought perhaps to awe into silence every doubt of Hazlitt's super-eminent excellence; and yet, after reading the volume carefully through, we cannot help feeling some surprise, at the manner in which its contents are spoken of, by those who have lent it the sanction of their names. The judgment of Mr. Bulwer is not, however, very surprising; neither would it be surprising, if it were precisely the reverse. But that a man of Mr. Talfourd's exquisite genius, could have written what he has written about

Hazlitt, is perfectly incomprehensible. This essay is marked by the choicest graces of style. Easy, fluent, delicate, abounding with the most delightful imagery, fanciful almost to excess, it steals upon our thoughts with a captivating sweetness ; but when we pass from its delicious pages to the writings of the man whom it has celebrated, we step, at one single bound, from Arabia Felix to Arabia Deserta.

To say that Mr. Hazlitt has been overestimated, would be to underestimate the case. He has been praised for qualities, which are precisely the opposite of those he actually possessed. His unflinching love of truth has been earnestly applauded : yet it is impossible to read any one of his essays without feeling that he was a whimsical, prejudiced, fickle-minded man ; in short, that he was any thing but a lover of truth ; destitute of the power of appreciating truth, having none of that calmness of mind which is necessary to a successful search after it ; that he was jealous, suspicious, and irritable. His style has but few merits. He was never content to say any thing in a simple and natural way ; his sentences betray a perpetual strife after brilliant and pointed expression. Antithesis is his bane. His never-ending effort to shine, is wearisome in the extreme. We are conscious at every sentence of the author's toil ; and we sympathize with him, so far at least as to feel that we too are toiling, and to but little purpose. It would be strange if so much labor did not strike out here and there something good ; there is an occasional felicity of expression, an occasional happy thought well uttered, in these essays. But there is not a single whole piece, which can be read through without anger at the writer's affectation and vanity. In the letter "on the conduct of life," there is much good advice, tersely expressed ; but it is all spoiled by some pages of nonsense about women, which would disgrace, if possible, any whiskered dandy who "switches his cane" in Washington street. It is impossible that Hazlitt should ever take his place among the classics of English Literature. At best he will occupy a debatable ground, where his name will be but little heard, if so fortunate as to be not quite forgotten.

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14. — *Discours prononcé devant la Cour royale d'Aix, par M. BORÉLY, Procureur-Général, à l'Audience Solennelle du 3 Novembre, 1835.*

THIS discourse, delivered by a law officer of Aix, last year, contains a pretty thorough discussion of the political and legal condition of France. The inquiry into which M. Borély enters, is, what is the actual condition of the French people, and what are the means of improving it ; what are the errors to be avoided